MINUTES

ALABAMA BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY
OF THE

THIRTY-NINTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

ALABAMA

Baptist Association,

HELD WITH

Damascus Baptist Church,

BUTLER COUNTY, ALABAMA.

October 8th, 9th, 10th and 11th, 1858.

MONTGOMERY:
BARRETT & WIMBISH, BOOK AND JOB PRINTERS.
1858.

MINUTES.

Damascus Baptist Church, October 8, 1858.

The Thirty-Ninth Annual Session of the Alabama Baptist Association was held with the Damascus Baptist Church. Elder P. H. Lundy preached the Introductory Sermon, from 1 Cor. 3d ch., 9th v.—"For we are laborers together with God."

After a short recess the Delegates re-assembled in the meeting-house The business was opened by the Moderator, Elder D. Lee.

The Letters from the Churches were read, and the Delegates' names enrolled.

Proceeded then to re-organize the meeting, by the election of officers for the ensuing year, viz: Elder D. Lee, Moderator; J. E. Bell, Clerk, and W. B. Haralson, Treasurer.

The Moderator took the chair, and announced that the Association was organized and ready to proceed to business.

1. Invited visiting ministers to seats.

2. The Moderator appointed the following Committees:

On Religious Exercises—C. H. Cleavland, Thomas Barlow, H. W. Watson; with the Deacons and Pastor of Damascus Church.

On Missions—C. F. Sturgis, J. S. Holmes, J. A. Fonville, W. B. Ray.

On Documents—J. A. Fonville, H. W. Caffey, R. Keith, J. A. Cougburn, R. Carson.

On Finance—D. R. Lide, H. W. Caffey, J. H. Robertson.

Auditing Committee—D. Gordon, F. L. Ellis, John Robertson.

On the State of the Churches—D. Peebles, G. G. McLendon, F. Hardy, C. M. Cochran, J. S. Holmes.

On motion, the committee on Periodicals was stricken from the list of Standing Committees.

Resolved, That the Association will suspend business to-morrow, after the forenoon session, for the Bible Society to hold its annual meeting.

Resolved, That the committee on Religious Exercises will not arrange for preaching during the sitting of the Bible Society.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock. Prayer by C. F. Sturgis.

SATURDAY, October 9.

Met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by Elder R. Keith.

1. Read and approved the minutes of yesterday.

2. Called the roll.

3. Read the Rules of Order.

4. Called for Correspondence, and received the following:

From the Bethlehem Baptist Association—A letter and minutes, by her Messegers, Elder N. Parker and E. Nix.

Salem—A letter and minutes, by Elder J. T. S. Park, J. O. Pitts, J. Gambol, J. P. Naull, R. Jordon.

Unity—A letter and minutes, by Elder J. H. Ray.

Pine Barren—A letter, by G. Longmire, John Scott.

Bethel—A letter.

Correspondence was proposed by Zion Baptist Association, which was cordially accepted, and her Messengers, Elders J. J. Cumby, J. C. R. Lockhart and H. M. Merrell, invited to seats.

Returned Correspondence.—To the CAHABA—C. H. Cleaveland, W. B. Haralson, C. M. Cochran; W. B. Haralson to write the letter.

To the PINE BARREN—Elder R. Kieth, J. G. Thames; R. Keith to write.

UNITY—L. B. Tatum, J. C. McDaniel, O. W. Sherer, D. Holt.

TUSKEGEE—D. Gord, E. W. Hardy, D. Lee, I. T. Tichenor, Geo. Smith, W. B. Haralson, T. Barlow, J. H. Cogburn, John Robinson, M. Bishop.

BETHLEHEM—D. Lee, R. Keith, J. E. Bell, J. D. Burt.

SALEM—D. Gordon, G. G. McLendon, W. O'Neill, E. Allen, J. Orum, J. Crow, J. Hardman.

CENTRAL—J. H. Cogburn, W. W. Waller.

ZION—J. C. Lockhart, H. S. Staggers, D. Gordon, T. Barlow, H. Dickens, J. J. Webb, W. J. Alford, T. H. Mills.

Appointed I. T. Tichenor to write the General Corresponding Letter. [See Appendix A.]

On motion, the Moderator appointed Delegates to the Baptist State Convention, viz: I. T. Tichenor, P. H. Lundy, C. F. Sturgis, C. M. Cochran, W. N. Reeves, D. Peebles, D. R. Lide, J. A. Fonville, D. Gordon, B. B. Rudulph.

Resolved, That this Association represent herself in the next Southern Baptist Convention, which is to be held in Richmond, Virginia, in May, 1859.

On motion, the Association appointed D. Lee, the Moderator, to said Convention; and instructed him to appoint twenty-six others. He appointed I. T. Tichenor, P. H. Lundy, C. F. Sturgis, D. Gordon, C. H. Cleaveland, W. N. Reeves, W. B. Haralson, J. A. Fonville, B. B. Ru-

dulph, D. R. Lide, T. M. Bragg, E. W. Hardy, F. L. Ellis, R. J. Ware, T. J. Molton, M. McLemore, W. Waller, J. H. Cogburn, H. W. Watson, J. S. Holmes, G. G. McLendon, D. Peebles, J. E. Bell, J. Robinson, J. H. Lee, J. L. Crow.

The committee on Preaching reported Elder S. Henderson to occupy the stand to-morrow at 10 o'clock, A. M.; Elder M. T. Sumner to preach (the Mission Sermon) at 11; and Elder C. F. Sturgis to preach at 3 P. M.; Elder J. A. Fonville to preach in the house at night.

Adjourned till Monday morning at 9 o'clock. Prayer by Elder J. Mercer.

Lord's Day, October 10.

The brethren appointed to occupy the stand to-day, preached in the order of their names, to a very large and attentive audience, with clearness and power. At the close of the missionary sermon, $90 70 were contributed by the congregation for mission purposes; and about $115 00 by the friends of the Indian, for the support of Lewis Cass, a missionary in the Cherokee Nation.

Monday, October 11.

Met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by Elder M. T. Sumner.

Called for the report of the committee on Missions—see Appendix B.; committee on Documents reported—Appendix C.; on State of the Churches—Appendix D.; On Finance—Appendix E.; the Treasurer reported—Appendix F. The Auditing Committee reported that the Finance report and the Treasurer's report were correct.

Resolved, That the Sabbath collections be appropriated to Home Missions; and the balance of the *Destitute Church fund* to beneficiaries of Howard College.

Resolved, That the Treasurer, W. B. Haralson, be instructed to transmit the funds contributed by this body for Foreign Missions, to the Foreign Board in Richmond, Va.

Called for the report of the Missionary Board of this Association—[see Appendix G.]

Resolved, That the same Board be re-appointed, and the same location continued. Board—David Lee, President; David Peebles, Secretary; W. B. Haralson, Treasurer; David Gordon, Thomas Barlow, J. H. Robertson, Daniel Rhast. Location—Mount Willing.

Resolved, That the condition of the Baptist Church at Lowndesboro be commended to the special consideration of the Board of this Association.

Resolved, That the Board be instructed to endeavor to supply the colored congregation of Elam Church with Sabbath preaching once a month.

Resolved, That the Moderator appoint a Committee on Missions,

whose duty it shall be to report at the next meeting of this body. The Chair appointed I. T. Tichenor, H. W. Watson, D. Lee, D. Peebles, J. E. Bell, said committee.

Resolved, That one of the Standing Committees be a committee on Sabbath Schoals.

Resolved, That the committee on Sabbath Schools be instructed to report at the next session of this body. The Chair appointed P. H. Lundy, C. F. Sturgis, W. B. Haralson, D. Peebles, T. Barlow, said committee.

Resolved, That the funds contributed to publish a sermon preached by Elder C. F. Sturgis before this body in 1854, which funds are in the hands of Elder I. Lyon, the former Clerk, be placed in the hands of brother Bell, the present Clerk; subject to the order of this Association.

Elder I. T. Tichenor, Corresponding Secretary of the Baptist Book Emporium, Montgomery, Ala., tendered fifty dollars' worth of books to this Association, which were accepted; and a committee of five appointed to dispose of said books, viz: P. H. Lundy, F. Hardy, T. Barlow, H. W. Watson, M. Bishop.

The committee recommend the books to be tendered to brethren J. S. Holmes, M. Bishop, J. E. Bell, R. Keith, W. N. Reeves and M. Daniel; and that the brethren named select such books as they may desire.

On motion, The Moderator appointed brethren D. Peebles, P. H. Lundy and T. Barlow, a committee to report resolutions expressive of the feeling of this body respecting the death of our late brother, Littleton Edwards.

The committee, after a short absence, submitted the following report, which was unanimously adopted:

REPORT.

On the 4th of July last, it pleased our Divine Master to call from this, to another state of existence, one of our members—brother Littleton Edwards, a Deacon of Town Creek Church. In the death of brother Edwards we are deprived of an estimable brother, and most valuable member. During his life he gave abundant evidence of his devotion to the cause of Christ, by acts of kindness and benevolence; ever ready to aid in spreading the Gospel of the blessed Savior. We rejoice in the confident belief that he has only left the Church Militant to join the Church Triumphant.

Resolved, That we lament his loss, and sympathise with the Church of which he was a member; and tender our sympathies to his bereaved family. D. PEEBLES, Chairman.

Resolved, That we cherish an undiminished regard for Howard College; that we cordially approve of the efforts to increase its endowment; and we commend its Agent, brother Barton, to the confidence of the Churches in our bounds.

Resolved, That the Churches of the Association be requested to contribute funds sufficient to sustain at least one Beneficiary in Howard College.

On motion, a committee of three was appointed,—viz: J. A. Fonville, I. T. Tichenor, C. F. Sturgis—to request a copy of the Introductory

Sermon, preached by Elder P. H. Lundy at the commencement of this session, for publication in pamphlet form.

The Committee on Preaching were instructed to appoint a minister to preach the Introductory Sermon; and another to preach the Missionary Sermon, at the next session of this body—with their Alternates.

The committee reported J. A. Fonville, to preach the Introductory —M. A. Bishop, Alternate; C. F. Sturgis, the Missionary Sermon—D. Lee, Alternate.

Resolved, That there ought to be a sermon preached annually, before this Association, on some one of our denominational peculiarities.

On motion, the committee on Preaching was instructed to appoint some brother, whose duty it shall be to carry into effect the above resolution at our next annual session.

The committee reported Elder I. T. Tichenor, to preach said sermon.

On motion, suspended business a short time for the Bible Society to sit.

Resumed business again.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to report on the proper disposition of the funds tendered by the Bible Society to this Association.

The Moderator appointed D. Peebles, P. H. Lundy, I. T. Tichenor, said committee. The commmittee

REPORTED

To the consideration of this body, the following as the best that can be done, until such time as "The State Bible and Colporteur Society" shall be able to organize a system which shall supply the destitute within our bounds.

1st. That the amount of funds now in hand be placed in the control of the Treasurer, to be invested without delay in Bibles and Testaments suitable to supply the wants of the country generally.

2d. Let each Church be recommended to ascertain as far as practicable the destitution in its own bounds, and undertake to supply that destitution upon either of the following plans, viz:

3d. That each Church willing to accept of it, be allowed to draw upon the Treasurer for five dollars' worth of Bibles or Testaments, of such description as they may require—on condition that said Church shall raise not less than five dollars for the same object. This system will require a little effort on the part of a few members of each Church to ascertain the extent of the destitution, and raise the corresponding amount; but your committee confidently expect that efficient brethren can be found in each Church who have sufficient love for the precious word of life, and the souls of men, to assist the pastors in this important and necessary work.

4th. That those Churches that can conveniently supply their own destitution, without the aid of the grant of five dollars' worth of Bibles, be recommended to order their supplies from whatever source they may judge most advantageous to themselves.

Appointed the next annual session of this Association to be held

with Mt. Lebanon Baptist Church, Dallas county, to commence on Friday before the second Sabbath in October, A. D. 1859. J. A. Fonville to preach the Association Sermon at 11 o'clock A. M.

Ordered, that the Declaration of Faith be appended to these minutes.

Ordered, that the Clerk superintend the printing and distribution of the minutes of this session. That he receive thirty dollars for his services, and that he have as many copies published as the funds in his hands will authorize.

Ordered, that a Letter of Dismission be granted to Elim Church, Autauga county, and that the Clerk prepare the same.

Resolved, unanimously, That the thanks of this body be tendered to the members of Damascus Church, and citizens of this vicinity, for their kindness and hospitality during this session.

On motion, adjourned, after a most harmonious and interesting meeting, to meet with the Mt. Lebanon Baptist Church. Singing and prayer by Elder Francis Calloway. Benediction by the Moderator.

DAVID LEE, Moderator.

The following sums were paid to Elder M. T. Sumner, Financial Secretary of the Home Board:

For support of Lewis Cass, native preacher of the Cherokee Nation, from

Freeman Hardy	$10 00	
W. G. Quarles	10 00	
Lewis Johnson	20 00	
C. H. Cleaveland	20 00—	$60 00
From Shiloh Church—		
For Foreign Missions	35 00	
" Domestic " S. B. C	25 00—	60 00
		$120 00

October 11, 1858. M. T. SUMNER, Fin. Sec., &c.

DECLARATION OF FAITH
OF ALABAMA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

ARTICLE I.—*Of the Scriptures.*—We believe the Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired, and is a perfect treasure of heavenly instruction;*a* that it has God for its Author,*b* salvation for its end,*c* and truth, without any mixture of error, for its matter;*d* that it reveals the principles by which God will judge us;*e* and therefore is, and shall remain to the end of the world, the true centre of Christian union,*f* and the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds and opinions, should be tried.*g*

*a*All Scripture is given by inspiration of God; and *is profitable* for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness; that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works—2 Tim. iii. 16. 17. *b*For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man; but holy men of God spake *as they were* moved by the Holy Ghost—2 Pet. i. 21. *c*These things are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that, believing, ye might have life through his name—John xx. 31. *d*For the word of the Lord is right; and all his works are done in truth—Psalm xxxiii. 4. *e*God shall judge the secrets of men according to my Gospel—Rom. ii. 10: And the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.—Rev. xx. 12. *f*Though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed—Gal. i. 9. *g*If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed—Gal. i. 100.

ART. II.—*Of the true God.*—That there is one, and only one, true and living God,*a* whose name is JEHOVAH,*b* the Maker and Supreme Ruler of heaven and earth;*c* inexpressibly glorious in holiness; worthy of all confidence and love;*d* revealed under the personal and relative distinctions of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, equal in every divine perfection,*e* and executing distinct but harmonious offices in the great work of redemption.*f*

*a*God is one—Gal. iii. 20. *b*That men may know that thou, whose name is JEHOVAH, art the Most High over all the earth—Psalm lxxxiii. 18. *c*For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible—Col. i. 16. *d*Who is like thee, glorious in holiness, fearful in praises, doing wonders—Ex. xv. 11. *e*For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost; and these three are one—1 John v. 7. For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily—Col. ii. 9. Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God—Phil. ii. 6. *f*God sent his Son into the world, that the world

through him might be saved—John iii. 17. Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures—Cor. xv. 3. And was raised again for our justification—Rom. iv. 25. He ever liveth to make intercession for them—Heb. vii. 25. It is the Spirit that quickeneth—John vi. 63.

Art. III.—*Of the Fall of Man.*—That man was created in a state of holiness, under the law of his Maker,*a* but by voluntary transgression fell from that holy and happy state; in consequence of which all mankind are now sinners, not by constraint, but choice,*b* being by nature utterly void of that holiness required by the law of God, wholly given to the gratification of the world, of Satan, and of their own sinful passions;*c* and therefore under just condemnation to eternal ruin, without defence and excuse.*d*

*a*God created man in his own image—Gen. i. 27. God made man upright—Ec. vii. 29. *b*In Adam all die—1 Cor. xv. 22. There is none righteous, no, not one—Rom. iii. 10. Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do—John viii. 44. *c*He that believeth not is condemned already; because he hath not believed on the name of the only begotten Son of God—John iii. 18. Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction—2 Thes. i. 8. *d*And he was speechless—Matt. xxii. 12. For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse—Rom. i. 20.

Art. IV.—*Of the way of Salvation.*—That the salvation of sinners is wholly of grace,*a* through the mediatorial offices of the Son of God,*b* who took on him our nature, yet without sin;*c* honored the law by his personal obedience, and made atonement for our sins by his death;*d* being risen from the dead, he is now enthroned in heaven;*e* and uniting in his wonderful person, the tenderest sympathies with divine perfections, is every way qualified to be a suitable, a compassionate, and an all-sufficient Savior.*f*

*a*For by grace are ye saved, through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God—Eph. ii. 8. *b*For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus—Tim. ii. 5. *c*For as much as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also took part of the same—Heb. ii. 14. And in him is no sin—1 John iii. 5. *d*The Lord is well pleased, for his righteousness' sake: He will magnify the law and make it honorable—Isa xiii. 21. We were reconciled to God by the death of his Son—Rom. v. 10. *e*But we see Jesus—crowned with glory and honor—Heb. ii. 9. *f*For we have an high priest that can be touched with the feelings of our infirmities—Heb. iv. 15. For in him dwelleth the fullness of the Godhead bodily—Col. ii. 9.

Art. V.—*Of Justification.*—That the great Gospel blessing, which Christ of his fullness bestows on such as believe in him, is Justification;*a* that Justification consists in the pardon of sin and promise of eternal life, on principles of righteousness;*b* that it is bestowed, not in consideration of any works of righteousness which we

have done, but solely through his own redemption and righteousness;*c* that it brings us into a state of most blessed peace and favor with God, and secures every other blessing needful for time and eternity.*d*

*a*Therefore being justified by faith we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ—Rom. v. 1. *b*Whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins—Acts x. 30. He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life—John iii. 36. Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation, through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God—Rom. iii. 25. *c*Not by works of righteousness, which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Ghost—Titus iii. 5. *d*He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?—Rom. viii. 32.

ART. VI.—*Of the freeness of Salvation.*—That the blessings of salvation are made free to all by the Gospel;*a* that it is the immediate duty of all to accept them by a cordial and obedient faith;*b* and that nothing prevents the salvation of the greatest sinner on earth, except his own voluntary refusal to submit to the Lord Jesus Christ;*c* which refusal will subject him to an aggravated condemnation.*d*

*a*Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth; for I am God, and there is none else—Isaiah xlv. 22. Whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely—Rev. xxii. 17. *b*Now he commandeth all men everywhere to repent—Acts xvii. 30. *c*Ye will not come unto me that ye might have life—John v. 40. *d*It shall be more tolerable for the land of Sodom, in the day of Judgment, than for thee—Matt. xi. 24.

ART. VII.—*Of Grace in Regeneration.*—That in order to be saved, we must be regenerated, or born again;*a* that Regeneration consists in giving a holy disposition to the mind, and is effected in a manner above our comprehension or calculation, by the power of the Holy Spirit, so as to secure our voluntary obedience to the Gospel;*b* and that its proper evidence is found in the holy fruit we bring forth to the glory of God.*c*

*a*Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God—John iii. 3. *b*And be renewed in the spirit of your mind. And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness—Eph. iv. 23, 24. The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth; so is every one that is born of the Spirit—John iii. 8. Every one that loveth, is born of God, and knoweth God—1 John iv. 7. If a man love me, he will keep my words—John xiv. 23. *c*For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them—Eph. ii. 10. We know that whosoever is born of God sinneth not—1 John v. 18.

ART. VIII.—*Of God's purpose of Grace.*—That election is the gracious purpose of God, according to which he regenerates, sanctifies and saves sinners;*a* that being perfectly consistent with the free agency of man, it comprehends all the means in connection with the end;*b* that it

is a most glorious display of God's sovereign goodness, being infinitely wise, holy, and unchangeable; that it utterly excludes boasting, and promotes humility, prayer, praise, trust in God, and active imitation of his free mercy;*c* that it encourages the use of means in the highest degree;*d* that it is ascertained by its effects in all who believe the Gospel;*e* is the foundation of Christian assurance:*f* and that, to ascertain it with regard to ourselves, demands and deserves out utmost diligence.*g*

*a*God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation, through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth—2 Thes. ii. 13. *b*Therefore I endure all things for the elect's sake, that they may obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus, with eternal glory—2 Tim ii. 10. *c*According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy, and without blame before him in love—Eph. i. 4. *d*Therefore I endure all things for the elect's sake, that they may obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus, with eternal glory. *e*And they that are with him are called, and chosen, and faithful—Rev. xvii. 14. *f*Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth. Who is he that condemneth?—Rom. viii. 33, 34. *g*Wherefore the rather, brethren, give all diligence to make your calling and election sure—2 Peter i. 10.

Art. IX.—*Of the perseverance of Saints.*—That such only are real believers as endure unto the end;*a* that their persevering attachment to Christ is the grand mark which distinguishes them from superficial professors;*b* that a special Providence watches over their welfare; and they are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation.*c*

*a*Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin because he is born of God. In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil—1 John iii. 9, 10. *b*They went out from us, but they were not of us—1 John ii. 19. *c*God is faithful who will not suffer you to be tempted above that you are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that you may be able to bear it—1 Cor. x. 13. Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation, ready to be revealed in the last time—1 Peter i. 5.

Art. X.—*Harmony of the Law and Gospel.*—That the law of God is the eternal and unchangeable rule of his moral government;*a* that it is holy, just, and good;*b* that the inability which the Scriptures ascribe to fallen men to fulfill its precepts, arises entirely from their love of sin; to deliver them from which, and to restore them, through a Mediator, to unfeigned obedience to the holy law, is one great end of the Gospel, and of the means of grace connected with the establishment of a visible Church.*c*

*a*Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled—Matt. v. 18. *b*Wherefore the law is holy, and the commandment holy, and just, and good—Rom. vi. 12. *c*That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit—Rom. viii. 4. Do we then make void the law through faith? God forbid: yea, we establish the law—Rom. iii. 31.

ART. VI.—*Of a Gospel Church.*—That a visible Church of Christ is a congregation of baptized believers, associated by covenant in the faith and fellowship of the Gospel; observing the ordinances of Christ;*a* governed by his laws, and exercising the gifts, rights and privileges invested in them by his word;*b* that its only proper officers are bishops or pastors, and deacons, whose qualifications, claims, and duties, are defined in the epistles to Timothy and Titus.*c*

*a*Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, to all that be in Rome, beloved of God, called to be saints—Rom. i. 7. Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death—Rom. vi. 3. Paul, an apostle, unto the Churches of Galatia—Gal. i. 1, 2. For ye are the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as have been baptized into Jesus Christ, have put on Christ—Gal. iii. 26, 27. *b*Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. And there are differences of administration, but the same Lord—1 Cor. xii. 4, 5. *c*A Bishop, then, must be blameless—1 Tim. iii. 1–7. Likewise must the Deacons be grave—1 Tim. iii. 8, 9, 10; see also Titus i. 7, 8, 9. Let the Elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honor, especially those who labor in word and doctrine; and, the laborer is worthy of his reward. Against an Elder receive not an accusation, but before two or three witnesses—1 Tim. 17, 18, 19.

ART. XII.—*Of Baptism and the Lord's Supper.*—That Christian Baptism is the immersion of a believer in water, in the name of the Father, Son, and Spirit;*a* to show forth, in a solemn and beautiful emblem, our *faith* in a crucified and risen Savior, with its purifying power;*b* that it is a pre-requisite to the privileges of a Church relation; and to the Lord's Supper;*c* in which the members of the Church, by the use of bread and wine, are to commemorate together the dying love of Christ; preceded always by solemn self-examination.*d*

*a*See, here is water; what doth hinder me to be baptized? And Philip said, If thou believest with all thy heart, thou mayest; and he said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. And they went down into the water, both Philip and the Eunuch; and he baptized him—Acts viii. 36, 37, 38. Go ye, therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost—Matt. xxviii. 19. *b*Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him, through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead—Col. ii. 12. *c*Except a man be born of water, and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God—John iii. 5. Jesus took bread, and blessed it, and brake it, and gave it to the DISCIPLES. And upon the first day of the week, when the DISCIPLES came together to break bread—Acts xx. 7. For as oft as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come—1 Cor. xi. 36. *d*But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread and drink of that cup—verse 28.

ART. XIII.—*Of the Christian Sabbath.*—That the first day of the week is the Lord's day, or Christian Sabbath,*a* and is to be kept sacred to religious purposes, by abstaining from all secular labor and recreations;*b* by the devout

observance of all the means of grace, both private and public ;*c* and by preparation for that rest which remaineth for the people of God.*d*

*a*I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day—Rev. i. 10. *b*Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy—Ex. xx. 8. For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day ; wherefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed 't—verse 11. *c*Upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came to break bread, Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow—Acts xx. 7. *d*There remaineth, therefore, a rest to the people of God—Heb. iv. 9. Let us labor, therefore, to enter into that rest—verse 11.

Art. XIV.—*Of Civil Government.*—That civil government is of Divine appointment, for the interest and good order of human society ;*a* and that magistrates are to be prayed for,*b* conscientiously honored and obeyed,*c* except in things opposed to the will of our Lord Jesus Christ,*d* who is the only Lord of the conscience, and prince of the kings of the earth.*e*

*a*For there is no power but of God : the powers that be are ordained of God —Rom. xiii. 1. For he is the minister of God to thee for good—verse 4. For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to evil—verse 3. *b*I exhort, therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men ; for kings and for all that are in authority—1 Tim. i. 1, 2. *c*Wherefore ye must needs be subject, not only for wrath, but also for conscience' sake—Rom xiii. 5. *d*We ought to obey God rather than men—Acts. v. 29. *e*Christ is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords—1 Tim. vi. 15.

Art. XV.—*Of the Righteous and the Wicked.*—That there is a radical and essential difference between the righteous and the wicked ;*a* that such only as through faith are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and sanctified by the Spirit of God, are truly righteous in his esteem,*b* while all such as continue in impenitence and unbelief, are in his sight wicked, and under the curse ;*c* and this distinction holds among men both in and after death.*d*

*a*He that is not with me is against me—Luke xi. 23. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his—Rom. viii. 9. In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil : whosoever doeth not righteousness, is not of God, neither he that loveth not his brother—1 John iii. 10. *b*To declare, I say at this time, his righteousness ; that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus—Rom. iii. 26. But ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God—1 Cor. vi. 11. *c*Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish—Luke xiii. 3. He that believeth not is condemned already—John iii. 18. *d*He that is unjust, let him be unjust still ; and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still ; and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still ; and he that is holy, let him be holy still—Rev. xxii. 11.

Art. XVI.—*Of the World to Come.*—That the end of this world is approaching ;*a* that at the last day Christ will descend from heaven, and raise the dead from the grave to final retribution ;*b* that a solemn separation will then take

place;*c* that the wicked will be adjudged to endless punishment, and the righteous to endless joy;*d* and that this judgment will fix forever the final state of men in heaven or hell, on principles of righteousness.*e*

*a*But the end of all things is at hand: be ye therefore sober, and watch unto prayer—1 Pete. iv. 7. *b*For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first—1 Thes. iv. 6. All that are in their graves shall hear his voice, and shall come forth: they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life: and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation John v. 28, 29. *c*And before him shall be gathered together all nations; and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth the sheep from the goats.—Matt. xxv. 32. *d*And these shall go away into everlasting punishment; but the righteous into life eternal—Matt. xxv. 32. *e*And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them; and they were judged every man according to his works. And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death—Rev. xx. 13, 14. SHALL NOT THE JUDGE OF ALL THE EARTH DO RIGHT?—Gen. xviii. 25.

APPENDIX.

(A.)

GENERAL CORRESPONDING LETTER.

The Alabama Baptist Association, now in session with the Damascus Church, Butler county, to her sister Associations sendeth Christian salutation.

Dear Brethren—It affords us great pleasure to continue our correspondence with you. We have been cheered by the presence of your delegates, and the good tidings they bring. We are grateful to be able to report to you, that peace and harmony has prevailed during our meeting, and that the Lord has blessed many of our Churches during the past year. There have been added to our number by baptism about five hundred.

We send as Delegates to your body the brethren whose names you will find in our minutes.

Our next Association will be held with the Mount Lebanon Church, Dallas county, where we will be glad to welcome messengers from your body.

By order of the Association.

DAVID LEE, Moderator.

J. E. BELL, Clerk.

(B.)

REPORT OF THE COMEITTEE OF MISSIONS.

The year 1858 will doubtless be long regarded as a memorable era in the history of our modern Christianity. Although different periods have been characterized by remarkable displays of divine power in the awakening and conversion of sinners, yet the events of the current year may safely be brought into comparison with the past, as evincing the power and goodness of God in the salvation of men.

Souls by scores and hundreds have been, in a few days, brought to the feet of Jesus; and the numbers in various lands who have embraced the Savior are numbered by thousands and tens of thousands. The angel of Mercy has had a foot upon the waters as well as upon the land. Ships have returned from their voyages freighted with souls rejoicing in the love of Jesus; and that, too, with no other means of grace than such as could be extemporized on board.

In these rich displays of Divine grace and mercy, our missionary enterprises, both foreign and domestic, have shared a reasonable part.

In view of these developments, one question springs up spontaneously in the pious mind: What shall we render unto God for all his mercies shown to us?

Shall not the four hundred and ninety-six baptisms in the Alabama Association, during the past year, cause our hearts to swell with lively emotions of gratitude, and give increased intensity to the missionary spirit that already burns with such a general influence within our bounds. God has seemed to place the seal of his approbation upon the missionary cause; and whilst Churches and Associations, that ignore the great principles we recognize as constituting so important an element of spiritual religion are diminishing year by year, God has graciously been pleased to smile upon our humble efforts to carry out the great commission, by giving the Gospel to the benighted, both in our own and foreign lands.

Your committee are happy to state, that the entire amount pledged for the support of brother and sister Priest has been sent up by the Churches, and also something both for the dwelling and school.

The figures stand as follows:

Amount of salary pledged	$897 40	
Making an overplus of		$147 40
Amount sent up for brother Priest's house	123 50	
" " " school of sister Priest	147 50	
Sum total		$1168 40

Your committee deem it a fit occasion of devout gratitude to God, that whilst other missionaries have been cut down and consigned to an early grave, the lives of our beloved brother and sister have (so far) been mercifully spared, we trust for long continued usefulness in the cause of the Redeemer.

Amidst our rejoicing that the support of brother and sister Priest has been abundantly provided for by the liberality of the Churches, we would state—remember and call attention to the fact—that there are other great and important interests that need to be cared for by the Churches. China, in the foreign field; the Indian mission, which in former years occupied so large a share of the sympathies of this body, together with the whole department of general domestic missions, demand the prayerful consideration of the Churches; and whilst, in ref-

erence to the cherished mission to Central Africa, we may use the language of our Redeemer, and say "*these ought ye to have done*," still, in reference to the Eastern mission—the Indian mission—the teeming population of our own land—our negro population—we may with equal propriety continue the language, and say, "*and not leave the other undone.*"

In short, brethren, we are, religiously, the happy, prosperous and united people that we are, by the blessing of our dear Redeemer upon our efforts, feeble as they have been, to carry out the will of Him who is King in Zion. It is, then, but a dictate of common sense to say that the more energetically and systematically we can carry out the plans of His own devising, the more may we expect to meet with His approving smiles and blessings upon our humble efforts. Let, then, every heart, in view of past mercies, thank God and take courage.

Your committee is impressed with the importance of a more general diffusion of information in reference to the various departments of missionary work. The various wants of the various fields already receiving or demanding attention; and for this information we refer you to the State organ of our denomination—the Home and Foreign Journal, and The Commission.

C. F. STURGIS, Chairman.

(C.)

The committee on Documents report, that in the documents entrusted to them for investigation, is contained a request from Elim Church that the Association supply the resignation of brother P. Stout, missionary to the blacks, and request that said vacancy be filled by bro. J. S. Holmes, if his services can be procured; and for said services said Church pledges itself to pay one hundred and fifty dollars. We recommend that said request be granted.

Elim Church, Autauga county, petitions for a letter of dismission from your body, to unite with the Unity Association. We recommend that said petition be granted, and the Church, with her entire interest, be kindly remembered by this body at a throne of grace.

All of which is very respectfully submitted.

J. A. FONVILLE, Chairman.

(D.)

STATE OF RELIGION IN THE CHURCHES.

The committee to whom this subject was referred, submit the following report:

There is a large majority of our Churches rejoicing over the conversion of sinners during "the time of refreshing from the presence of the Lord," with which we have been favored generally for the last few months. Other Churches have had no remarkable outpourings of the spirit in their midst, though they seem to be growing "in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior," whilst a few, and *but a few* complain of coldness and lukewarmness.

For the prosperity which the Lord has sent upon us as a body, we should praise Him for His goodness and His wonderful works to the children of men.

D. PEEBLES, Chairman.

(F.)

WM. B. HARALSON IN ACCOUNT WITH THE ALABAMA ASSOCIATION FOR THE YEAR JUST ENDED.

Colored Mission Funds.

Amount collected at Association two years ago	$45	00	
" sent up from Churches last year	20	50	
Subscription paid last year	50	00	
Collected this Association on subscription	105	00	
Rehoboth Church fund, which has been in the hands of D. Gordon	164	00	
Pledge redeemed from Town Creek Church	16	00	$400 50
1856.			
By amount paid Barry for printing Circulars	15	00	
1858.			
Oct. 9. D. Lee's draft in favor of J. S. Holmes	250	00	
Balance due this fund	135	50	$400 50

Pledge from Town Creek Church	$16	00	
Balance bro't down	135	50	
Sent up by Churches this year	33	00	184 50
Associational fund from last year	357	59	
Domestic Mission from Alabama Association	394	80	$752 39

For minutes $91 30

Baptist State Convention Fund.

General Domestic Missions	$25	00	
Foreign " " R. W. Priest	904	40	
Indian "	214	60	
Beneficiaries of Howard College	81	00	
Bible Distribution	59	90	
Sister Priest	148	50	
Southern Publication Society	8	50	
Brother Priest's house	151	00	
Foreign Missions	12	25	
Sabbath collection	90	70	$1705 85

All of which is respectfully submitted.

W. B. HARALSON, Treasurer.

We, the Auditing Committee, have examined the above accounts, and find them correct. D. GORDON, Chairman.

(G.)

REPORT OF THE MISSIONARY BOARD.

Your Board beg leave to report, that, as your Agents, they have done but little in the Master's cause since your last meeting.

Your Body failed to place in your Treasurer's hands sufficient funds to employ one missionary for the entire year; consequently we have been unable to employ any one, save to the colored population.

Immediately after the adjournment of your last meeting, your Board engaged brother J. S. Holmes, for one half of his time to preach to the slave population in Montgomery county, at twenty-five dollars per month for actual services rendered.

Brother Holmes entered his field on the first of December last, and has been in the employ of the Board ten months; for which services we have drawn on your Treasurer for two hundred and fifty dollars.

Brother Holmes reports that he has traveled about six hundred miles, and preached regularly to the colored people; for which they seem very grateful.

We also appointed Elder Platt Stout to labor one fourth of his time for the spiritual benefit of the colored congregation of Elam Church; said Church to pay him $150 00.

We have received no report from brother Stout, but learn through the Church that, in consequence of failing health, he has relinquished his work at that place.

There is a large slave population in your bounds, to a great extent unprovided with the means of salvation! Shall they be suffered to live and die in ignorance and sin? Shall we not, rather, re-double our diligence to give them the Gospel of Christ?

There is still that wide and interesting field, lying in the eastern portion of Lowndes and western portion of Montgomery counties, unoccupied by Baptists. Shall it longer lie neglected by us?

DAVID LEE, President.

BODIES CONTRIBUTING.	Minutes...	Dom. Miss. in Ala. Asso'n.	Colored Mission.	Gen. Dom. Missions.	For'n Missions, R. W. Priest	Indian Missions....	Ben. How'd College..	Bible Distribution.	Sister Priest...	Sou. Pub'n Society..	Br. Priest's house...	For Mis'ns.	Total.....
Center Ridge	3 00	37 50	.....	.....	40 85	25 50	9 50	16 15	.....	....	.....	.....	132 50
Hayneville, (1857)	2 00	.....	.....	.....	13 00	.....	.....	2 50	.....	2 50	12 00	.....	32 00
Hayneville, (1858)	2 00	5 00	5 00	.....	20 00	5 00	20 00	2 00	.....	2 00	20 00	5 00	86 00
Hopewell	3 35	44 50	1 00	.....	41 50	.....	.....	.....	54 10	....	.....	.....	144 45
Antioch	3 00	8 00	.....	.....	8 00	9 00	.....	5 00	.....	3 00	1 00	.....	37 00
Shiloh	2 00	.....	.....	.....	58 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	....	.....	.....	60 00
Sister Springs	1 50	3 00	.....	.....	13 00	10 50	.....	.....	.....	....	.....	.....	28 00
Midway	2 00	2 00	.....	.....	20 50	2 50	.....	.....	.....	....	.....	.....	27 00
Hickory Grove	2 00	8 25	.....	....	5 00	4 00	8 00	.....	5 00	....	.....	6 00	38 25
Mt. Lebanon, Dallas	3 00	.....	.....	.....	54 50	.....	.....	.....	22 90	...	.....	.....	80 40
Unity	2 50	.....	11 00	.....	38 10	.....	4 00	.....	.....	....	.....	.....	55 60
Benton	2 00	13 00	.....	.....	10 00	.....	.....	.....	10 00	....	.....	.....	35 00
Sardis	1 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	....	.....	.....	1 00
Elim	3 00	.....	.....	....	19 05	.....	.....	.....	.....	....	.....	.....	22 05
Damascus	4 00	40 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	....	.....	.....	44 00
Mt. Olive	2 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	....	.....	.....	2 00
Good Hope	2 00	3 50	.....	.....	3 00	1 00	.....	75	.....	1 00	.....	1 25	12 50
Salem	2 50	11 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2 00	.....	....	.....	.....	15 50
Bethel	3 00	8 80	.....	.....	8 85	.....	.....	.....	.....	....	.....	.....	20 65
Rehoboth	2 00	20 00	.....	10 00	79 00	10 00	6 00	.....	7 00	....	50 00	.....	184 00
Montgomery	5 00	51 00	.....	.....	190 35	.....	.....	.....	.....	....	.....	.....	246 35
Bethany	3 00	23 50	.....	.....	55 00	.....	.....	.....	19 00	....	30 50	.....	131 00
Providence	2 50	.....	.....	.....	25 60	.....	.....	.....	.....	....	.....	.....	28 10
Mt. Gilead	2 00	22 00	.....	.....	27 50	.....	.....	.....	.....	....	10 00	.....	61 50
Lowndesboro, (Sister Miles)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3 00	....	.....	.....	3 00

Town Creek	3 50	11 00	.....	.....	58 00	.....	.....	.....	21 50	....	.....	.....	110 00
Ramer	1 50	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	....	.....	.....	1 50
Mt. Lebanon Montgomery county	2 50	.....	.....	.....	8 00	4 00	.....	.....	.....	...	.....	.....	14 50
New Bethel	2 10	13 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	....	.....	.....	15 10
Philadelphia	2 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	....	.....	.....	2 00
Greenville	2 50	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	....	.....	.....	2 50
New Ebenezer	1 50	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	....	.....	.....	1 50
Bethesda	3 00	17 65	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	....	.....	.....	20 65
Ash Creek	3 00	39 50	.....	15 00	51 00	28 00	33 50	29 50	5 00	....	.....	.....	204 50
Pine Level	3 00	.....	.....	.....	37 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	....	.....	.....	40 00
Spring Hill	1 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	....	.....	.....	1 00
Greenwood	2 50	12 60	.....	.....	12 60	.....	.....	.....	.....	....	.....	.....	27 70
Siloam	2 85	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	....	.....	.....	2 85
Town Creek, (Sister Polly Hardy)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5 00	.....	....	.....	.....	5 00
Del. subscribed for Hancock's sup't	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	113 10	.....	.....	.....	....	.....	.....	113 10
Sister Crumpton, P. Hill	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1 00	....	.....	.....	1 00
Pledge redeemed, Town Creek	.....	.....	16 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	....	.....	.....	.....
Pub. col. Sunday from col'd people	.....	.....	.....	.....	5 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	....	.....	.....	5 00
P. H. Lundy, pledge redeemed	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	....	20 00	.....	20 00
Franklin Armstrong, pledge redeemed	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	....	7 50	.....	7 50
Pub. col. on Sunday from whites	.....	....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	....	.....	.....	90 70
John W. Howard	.....	.....	.....	.....	2 00	2 00	.....	.....	.....	....	.....	.....	4 00
By the Ladies	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2 00	.....	....	.....	.....	2 00
	91 30	394 80	33 00	25 00	904 40	214 60	81 00	59 90	148 50	8 50	151 00	12 25	2214 95

All of which is respectfully submitted,

D. R. LIDE, Chairman.

RECAPITULATION.—Minutes, $91 30; Dom. Miss. in Ala. Ass'n, $394 80; Colored do., $33 00; Gen. Dom. Miss., $25 00; Foreign Miss, R. W. Priest, $904 40; Indian Miss, $214 60; Ben. How'd College, $81 00; Bible Dist'n, $59 90; Sister Priest, 148 50; Sou. Pub. Soc., $8 50; Bro. Priest's house, $151 00; For. Miss., $12 25; making $2124 25—Pub. col. on Sab., unappro'd, $90 70; Total, $2214 95.

$51 60 by Messrs. Lee & Robinson for sis'r Priest; by col'd members of Shiloh Church, for br. Priest, $3; Mt. Lebanon, $3 90; Unity, $1; Elim, $19 05; Rehoboth, $4; Montgomery, $7 70; Bethany, $5; Mt. Gilead, $3; $16 pledged by Town Creek, Home Col. Miss. next year.

The Auditing Committee have examined the above and find it correct.

D. GORDON, Chairman.

STATISTICS OF THE CHURCHES.

NAMES OF CHURCHES.	POST OFFICES.		MINISTERS.	CLERKS.	Baptized..	R'd by vou.	R'd by Let.	Dis. by Let.	Excluded.	Restored..	Dead.....	Whites....	Blacks....	Whole No.	Sab. Meet'g
First District															
Providence	Orville.....	C. M. Cochran, Jas. Lake,† *W. N. Reeves*,†	J. Dennis.....	J. A. Norwood...	39	..	5	1	1	2	3	69	84	153	4
Shiloh	Selma	C. H. Cleaveland, L. Johnston, W. Johnston	P. H. Lundy...	Wm. Johnson....	7	1	7	7	1	..	1	27	237	264	4
Center Ridge...	Carlowville..	C. F. Sturgis, D. R. Lide, S. W. Lide.....	C. F. Sturgis..	J. W. Dennis....	13	..	..	9	1	..	1	64	166	230	1-3
Mt. Lebanon...	Pleasant Hill.	R. Carson.....	.... do.	T. U. Robinson...	19	..	2	3	1	..	..	....	....	118	4
Town Creek....	Benton.....	F. Hardy, W. G Quarles, W. W. Hardy, sr..	D. Peebles....	E. W. Hardy.....	1	..	5	4	6	..	8	129	95	224	2
Sister Springs..	.... do.	G. Carter,† G. W. Young,† J. Johnston,†...	.... do.	J. Johnson.....	..	..	1	2	3	..	1	32	62	94	1
Bethany	.... do.	P. H. Lundy, W. B. Haralson, H. W. Caffy.	P. H. Lundy..	H. W. Caffy.....	15	..	2	7	2	4	1	86	156	212	1
Second District.					..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
*Elam, Autauga	.... do.	I. U. Wilks,† O. W. Sherer,† A. L. Haralson	D. Lee.....	A. L. Haralson...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	13	12	25	3
Benton	.... do.	I. Lyon,† W. H. Sayers,† S. W. C. Weston,†	P. H. Lundy..	S. W. C. Weston..	2	..	1	3	..	..	..	18	11	29	4
Mount Gilead..	.... do.	T. Barlow, J. A Edwards, G. H. Traylor,†		J. A. Edwards...	1	..	1	3	2	..	1	39	95	134	3
Ash Creek.....	.... do.	D. Peebles, D. Gordon, A. Edwards.....	D. Peebles....	A Edwards.....	13	..	..	7	..	1	1	48	67	121	4
Hopewell.....	Mt. Willing..	D. Lee, J H. Robertson, H. L. Hinson....	D. Lee.....	J. H. Robertson..	14	1	5	6	..	..	1	100	56	156	1
New Bethel....	Bragg's Store	J. E. Casy. R. Hobby, J. Bruner,†.....	do.	E. F. Underwood.	..	..	2	2	2	..	..	62	19	81	3
Lowndesboro...	Lowndesboro	*Not represented*.....			..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Hayneville.....	Hayneville..	J. P. Streety,† B. B. Rudulph,† J. E. Moss,†	D. Peebles....	B. B. Rudulph...	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	22	19	41	3
Fellowship.....	.... do.	*Not represented*.....			..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Bethel.....	Fort Deposite	G. Smith, James Day, J. D. Burt.....	J. E. Bell.....	R. M. Burt.....	25	..	9	3	..	..	..	77	5	82	1
Good Hope.....	Manningham,	A. Hinson, John Peagler, J. F. Smith,† ..	D. Lee.....	A. Peagler.....	..	..	9	4	1	..	..	36	8	44	2
Third District.					..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Unity.....	Prattville ...	L. B. Tatum, D. Holt, T. J. Tarleton,†....	P. H. Lundy..	J. J. Lamar.....	2	..	3	3	..	..	..	82	48	130	2
Montgomery ..	Montgomery	I. T. Tichenor, H. W. Watson. T. H. Mills,	I. T. Tichenor..	W. P. Vanderveer,	126	..	49	12	7	2	2	295	495	790	E. S
Rehoboth	.... do.	P. R. Brasel, R. J. Ware,† T. J. Molton,†..	A. T. M. Handy	R. J. Ware.....	7	..	2	11	2	1	4	....	....	379	1-3
Elim, Montg'y..	.... do.	G. W. Ward, A. J. McLemore,† B. F. Caffy,†	do. J. M. Newman	B. F. Caffy.....	20	..	2	3	3	2	4	22	390	412	...
Salem	.... do.	D. Meadows, Geo. Bazer, R. S. Wilson,†..	R. Stewart....	J. S. Collins....	9	1	1	..	..	..	..	21	33	54	1

Ramah	Ramah	G. G. McLendon, J. C. McDaniel, J. Talbot,	G. G. McLendon	J. D. McLendon	1	..	19	1	..	..	2	....	....	32	...
Antioch	Mt. Meigs	J. H. Cogburn, W. B. Ray		W. B. Ray	38	1	2	3	1	..	1	22	414	436	1–3
Greenwood	Greenwood	J. Orum, J. Hardman, W. Fitzpatrick,†	J. A. Fonville	W. Fitzpatrick	7	..	12	3	..	1	..	35	17	53	...
‡Midway	Pine Level	James Crow, John Lee, Wm. O'Neill	.... do.	H. Murry	34	1	10	18	..	..	2	46	30	76	2
Liberty	.... do.				..	..	..	..	..	..	..	....	....	....	...
Pine Level	.... do.	D. M. Dickson, J. D. Right, H. W. Clark,†	.... do.	C. Stevens	1	..	12	2	2	..	..	52	10	62	...
Mt. Lebanon, M.	Catoma	J. R. Ray, J. Jones,† G. Long,†	G. G. McLendon	J. R. Ray	..	..	9	..	..	..	1	23	46	69	...
Bethesda	Sharpville	John Robinson, J. S. Holmes, W. Myrick	J. S. Holmes	J. D. Foster	17	..	8	..	1	1	..	58	21	79	4
Fourth Distsict.					..	..	..	..	..	..	..	....	....	....	...
Greenville	Greenville	J. E. Bell, J. G. Thames, J. G. Colvin	J. E. Bell	J. G. Colvin	14	..	10	3	1	..	..	35	20	55	2–4
Damascus	.... do.	M. Bishop, H. S. Stagers, J. C. Lockhart	M. Bishop	S. F. Andress	36	..	16	4	..	1	..	168	22	190	3
Sardis	Pigeon Creek	R. Keith, J. H. Smith	R. Keith	P. H. Drake	3	..	10	12	8	1	2	....	....	48	...
Union	Three Runs	*Not represented*			..	..	..	..	..	..	..	....	....	....	...
Spring Hill	Millville	A. C. Chester, *J. J. Webb*, W. H. Alford	W. G. Williams	J. J. Webb	..	..	5	15	5	..	2	19	1	20	4
Siloam	.... do.	F. Bush, F. Boan, J. Swanner,†	R. Keith	Wm. Swanner	24	..	2	5	4	3	1	82	7	89	...
Hickory Grove	Hick'y Grove	J. A. Fonville, F. L. Ellis, J. P. Cross	J. A. Fonville	A. Dean	2	1	1	3	..	..	2	35	16	51	3
Mount Olive	Greenville	W. D. Turner, H. Dickens, J. Bush	R. Gentry	W. D. Turner	..	..	4	9	3	..	..	33	2	35	4
Philadelphia	Argus	W. W. Thrower, E. Allen, A. Butler		J. R. McLendon	6	..	6	7	2	3	..	47	11	58	3
New Ebenezer	.... do.	Letter—no messengers		J. J. Hudson	..	..	2	2	4	..	..	....	....	27	...
					496	6	234	177	64	22	41	1897	2675	5153	

☞ The Statistics of several Churches were filled in part from last year's minutes, the Clerks failing to put them in the letters.
Ordained Ministers' names in SMALL CAPITALS. ‡Formerly Panther Creek. *Dismissed. Absentees marked †.

MINUTES

OF THE FOURTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE BIBLE SOCIETY OF THE ALABAMA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

Damascus Church, October 9, 1858.

The President, C. F. Sturgis, called the meeting to order. Prayer by J. E. Bell.

The former Secretary being absent, the President requested J. E. Bell to act as Secretary pro. tem.

The President appointed a committee to nominate officers for the ensuing year. Committee—J. T. S. Park, T. M. Bragg and I. T. Tichenor.

During singing, interspersed with appropriate speeches, the following became annual members, by the payment of one dollar each: Miss A. M. Rudulph, Miss Martha Norman, D. Gordon, J. S. Holmes, C. M. Cochrin, William O'Neill, L. J. Moore, J. Peagler, W. W. Hardy, J. Robinson, C. F. Sturgis, Mrs. A. B. Holmes, J. A. Fonville, J. T. S. Park, J. O. Pitts, E. W. Hardy, A. Edwards, J. H. Lee, J. E. Kalb, J. A. Edwards, J. G. Cook, J. D. Burt, W. Spradly, E. Allen, P. R. Brassell, G. S. Ward, W. J. Hardman, S. W. Lide, R. Keith, D. Holt, L. Johnson, F. Hardy, James Day, C. Cook, James Crow, R. Carson, C. H. Cleaveland, D. Peebles, M. Bishop, J. G. Thames, J. Rudulph, H. W. Watson, H. M. Merrell, S. F. Andress, Mrs. J. E. Bell, O. W. Sherrer, C. W. Galloway, J. W. Howard.

The following were made life members, by the payment of ten dollars each: G. G. McLendon, by H. W. Watson;

J. S. Holmes, by H. W. Watson; J. C. R. Lockhart, by John Rudulph; M. Bishop, by S. F. Andress, J. Moore, —— Carlee, and Ed. Nix; T. M. Bragg.

The following were made life directors, by the payment of twenty dollars each: D. Peebles, by D. Gordon, W. Quarles, F. Hardy, W. W. Hardy, and two other friends; J. E. Bell, by T. M. Bragg and John Rudulph.

The committee appointed to nominate officers for the next year reported: for President, C. F. Sturgis; for Vice Presidents, C. H. Cleaveland, H. W. Watson and M. Bishop; for Secretary, J. E. Bell; and Treasurer, D. Gordon. The nominees were elected by acclamation.

A committee was appointed to reccommend a proper disposition of the funds taken up at this meeting.

Adjourned to meet at the call of the President.

Monday, October 11, 1858.

Meeting called to order by the President.

Brother D. Lee in the Chair, the President made the following report, being Chairman of a committee to recommend a proper distribution of the funds of the society.

REPORT.

Your committee is profoundly impressed with the conviction that the time has fully arrived when the work of colportage and Bible distribution can no longer be neglected in the Alabama Association.

The reasons for this opinion are too obvious to require argument or illustration. The extent of the field, the wants of the people, the recently organized Churches, the almost infantile state of many of these newly organized bodies, in addition to the general wants of the country, lay upon us a degree of responsibility that cannot be longer overlooked or disregarded.

As regards the best means of supplying the vacant Churches and communities with Bibles and other religious

books, your committee are at a loss to determine, unless a larger amount of funds were on hand for that purpose; and therefore recommend that the entire matter be referred to the wisdom of the Association for adjucation.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

C. F. STURGIS, Chairman.

There being no further business, the society adjourned to meet at the next sitting of the Association at Mount Lebanon Church, Dallas county.

C. F. STURGIS, President.

J. E. BELL, Secretary.

NAMES OF CONTRIBUTORS.	MEMBERS.	HOME COL'D MISSION.	BRO. PRIEST.	BENEFIC'IES OF H'RD COL.	SOU. BAP'ST PUB. SOC'TY.	BIBLE.	FOR'N MISS. S. B. C.	INDIAN MISSION.	GEN'L DOM.' MISS. S. B. C.	DOM. MISS'N ALA. ASS'N.